

Written Testimony

EXHIBIT 13
DATE 1-10-07
HB 2

To: Chair
Human Services
From: Kirk Ferree
Date: 10 January 2007
Re: Comments On MHSP

Madam Chair:

I'm Kirk Ferree and I live in Great Falls at 1020 5th Ave North. I'm a Peer Support Specialist and I'm a person with a mental illness.

I'm currently using the MHSP program. It's my lifeblood if it weren't for therapy and physiologist services for dealing with the problems with my Mental Health. I wouldn't be here. I've become aware that MHSP will become restricted to once every three months that's for too long in between times for me if I'm in crisis and need to talk to someone. I would be in the state Hospital or dead if I had to wait for 2 ½ months to see somebody. I'm currently trying to apply for Social Security Benefits in less than 6 months I will be without meds or any help from the state.

In closing I get my Meds through MHSP, my counseling, success to physiologist and without it I have no benefits period. Not Medicaid, SSI, SSDI, nothing.